

# School Security Update

# March 2024

J. Doyle Batten, Supervisor of School Security

*The Office of School Security collaborates with various agencies to implement prevention and awareness programs and assist students if emergency incidents occur. The safety and well-being of students, staff, and visitors is paramount at Anne Arundel County Public Schools.*

## AACPS Training:

- We had the opportunity to attend the national conference of the Association for Threat Assessment Professionals, where we gained valuable insights and knowledge about how to assess and manage threats in our school environment.
- Our team completed the Front Desk Safety and Security professional development course, which equipped us with the skills and knowledge to ensure the safety and security of our students and staff.
- We presented important information during the volunteer training sessions for #BePresent, a program encouraging parents and community members to get involved in our schools.
- We provided security-related professional development to Signature Program Coordinators and aspiring principals, which helped them to understand the latest security measures and protocols to ensure the safety of our schools.
- We co-presented with Deputy Superintendent Jackson during the Athletics Spring 2024 Kick-Off Meeting, where we discussed important safety and security measures that need to be taken during sports events.

## Community:

- We participated in a Strategic Planning Committee meeting and the Anne Arundel County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, where we discussed important issues related to safety and security in our community.
- We attended a Truancy Court session at the Annapolis District Court, where we learned about the legal process for addressing truancy in our schools.

## Collaboration:

- We participated in the AACPS Professional Growth & Development Management Experience Pilot Program planning meeting and the AACPS Americans With Disabilities collaboration meeting.
- We are continuing to work with Anne Arundel County Government regarding software programming transitions for handheld emergency communication devices, which will help us to improve our emergency communication systems.
- We are continuing to work with AACPS Facilities regarding security access controls, building construction, and other security-related topics, which will help us to ensure the safety and security of our school buildings.

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- We attended Security Directors' meetings with the Maryland Center for School Security and the Maryland Boards of Education, where we learned about the latest security measures and protocols implemented across the state.

As always, our security team works closely with police and fire investigators to provide evidence and information for incidents occurring on school properties.